

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
WESTERN DIVISION AT DAYTON

STEVEN KAUTZ,

Plaintiff,

Case No. 3:20-cv-244

vs.

COMMISSIONER OF
SOCIAL SECURITY,

District Judge Douglas R. Cole
Magistrate Judge Michael J. Newman

Defendant.

NOTICE TO *PRO SE* PLAINTIFF

Understanding that Plaintiff is proceeding *pro se* in this case, the Court, in the interests of justice, **NOTIFIES** Plaintiff of the following:

1. You have the right to be represented by an attorney throughout the proceedings in this Court.
2. If you are interested in obtaining counsel but are unsure of how to find an appropriate attorney, you may wish to contact the Dayton Bar Association's Lawyer Referral Service at (937) 222-6102 or the Greater Dayton Volunteer Lawyers Project at (937) 461-3857. Information regarding the Greater Dayton Volunteer Lawyers Project can be accessed online at www.gdvlp.org.
3. The Court does not have funding to appoint lawyers to represent parties in civil cases. However, should you desire the assistance of a lawyer, and should all other efforts to obtain a lawyer fail, the Court will entertain a motion for the appointment of counsel and will make its best efforts to find counsel to represent you pro bono.
4. You also have the right to proceed without the assistance of an attorney if you so choose.
5. Parties are not permitted to have *ex-parte* communications with the Court. This means that you cannot communicate with the Court about the merits of your case, orally or in writing, without the other party's participation.
6. You must tell the Court and the other party's attorney, in writing, of changes to your address and/or telephone number.

7. Because *pro se* litigants do not have access to the Court's electronic filing system, they are required to mail a copy of anything they file with the Court to the other party's attorney and enclose a signed Certificate of Service. This requirement can be avoided if: (1) the *pro se* litigant personally brings the filing to the Clerk of Court's office for filing; (2) the attorney(s) for the other party agree to receive service solely through the Court's CM/ECF filing system; and (3) the Certificate of Service in the *pro se* litigant's filing states that service will be made solely through the Court's CM/ECF filing system and counsel for the opposing party has so consented.
8. *Pro se* litigants are encouraged to read the Guide for *Pro Se* Civil Litigants, which can be accessed online at <https://www.ohsd.uscourts.gov/pro-se-handbook>. Though it is not binding, *pro se* litigants are also encouraged to read the Handbook for *Pro Se* Litigants, which can be accessed online at <https://www.fedbar.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Pro-Se-Handbook-APPROVED-v2019-2.pdf>.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: June 26, 2020

s/Michael J. Newman
Michael J. Newman
United States Magistrate Judge